

REMARKS

The present Amendment amends claims 5, 7, 8 and 19-24 and leaves claims 6, 9-11, 13-15, 17 and 18 unchanged. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 5-11, 13-15 and 17-24.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner indication in the Office Action that claims 19-24 would be allowable if amended to be in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Amendments were made to claims 19-24 to place them in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Therefore, claims 19-24 are allowable as indicated by the Examiner.

Claims 5-7, 10, 13-15 and 18 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated LeMole (U.S. Patent No. 6,009,410); claims 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over LeMole in view of Alegre (U.S. Patent No. 6,199,113); claim 11 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over LeMole in view of Dragulev (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0037407) and claims 13 and 17 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over LeMole in view of Miller (U.S. Patent No. 5,920,701). These rejections are traversed for the following reasons. Applicants submit that the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in claims 5-11, 13-15, 17 and 18 are not taught or suggested by LeMole, Alegre, Dragulev or Miller whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw these rejections.

Amendments were made to each of the independent claims so as to more clearly recite that the present invention is directed to a cache server set between a content server and a plurality of clients for distributing contents to the clients based on requests sent from the client wherein the content server is requested contents by the clients via the cache server and transfers the requested contents to the clients.

According to the present invention the cache server includes an apparatus for collecting contents access situation information from the clients, an apparatus for analyzing contents access trends based on the contents access situation of accesses to the content as conducted by the client, an apparatus for transmitting the contents access trends to an apparatus which predicts contents expected to be in demand for the clients in the future based on the contents access trends and causing the contents expected in demand in the future to be transmitted and apparatus for receiving the contents expected to be in demand in future from the contents server in advance before access requests are received from the clients, a cache apparatus for storing the received contents and apparatus for transmitted requested contents from the contents expected to be in demand in the future to the clients in accordance with the requests when received from the clients.

The above described features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record whether taken individually or in combination with each other. Particularly, the above described features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by LeMole,

Alegre, Dragulev and Miller whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner.

LeMole, being the primary reference being relied upon by the Examiner, teaches a method and system for presenting customized advertising to the user on the World Wide Web (WWW). LeMole teaches the use of a customized advertising repository server that, based on a users previously provided user profile, provides configured composite advertising pages customized to the individual user. LeMole teaches that an apparatus for collecting profile information including ones marital status, age, number of children forms a user profile in the user profile database based on the collected profile information. Attention is directed to col. 4, lines 44-48 of LeMole.

LeMole further teaches that the customized advertising repository selects from an associated subscriber database particular advertising so as to dynamically create a composite advertising page specifically for an individual user based on that users profile previously stored in the users profile database. Attention is directed to col. 4, line 50-60 of LeMole.

Thus, LeMole merely teaches that the previously provided user profile information is used so as to select particular advertising so as to form a composite advertising page provided to the user. Thus, each time a user accesses a particular website a composite advertising page is generated for that individual user based upon the users previous profile.

Thus, as is quite clear from the above, LeMole is only directed to providing a single user pre-configured advertising pages based upon that user's previous accesses and profile. There is no teaching or suggestion in

LeMole that a prediction of demand for particular types of content is performed based upon a plurality of requests performed by a plurality of clients so that the content predicted to be in demand in the future is made available to all clients in a cache so as to quickly satisfy the anticipated demand as in the present invention.

The above described deficiencies of LeMole is also evident in each of the other references utilized by the Examiner to reject the claims, namely Alegre, Dragulev and Miller whether said references are taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner.

Thus, LeMole, Alegre, Dragulev and Miller fail to teach or suggest apparatus for collecting contents access situation information from the clients and an apparatus for analyzing content access trends based on the contents access situation information of accesses to the contents as conducted by the clients as recited in the claims.

Further, LeMole, Alegre, Dragulev and Miller fail to teach or suggest an apparatus for transmitting the contents access trends to an apparatus which predicts contents expected to be in demand for the clients in the future based on the content access trends and causing the contents expected to be in demand in the future to be transmitted and an apparatus for receiving the contents expected to be in demand in the future from the content server in advance before access request are received from the client as recited in the claims.

Still further, LeMole, Alegre, Dragulev and Miller fail to teach or suggest a cache apparatus for storing the received contents and an apparatus for transmitting requested contents from the contents expected to be in demand

in the future to the clients in accordance with the request when received from the clients as recited in the claims.

Therefore, as is quite clear from the above, LeMole whether taken individually or in combination with any one or more of Alegre, Dragulev and Miller fail to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC §102 and 35 USC §103 rejections of the claims is respectfully requested.

The remaining references of record have been studied. Applicants submit that they do not supply any of the deficiencies noted above with respect to the references utilized in the rejection of claims 5-11, 13-15, 17 and 18.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 5-11, 13-15 and 17-24 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 5-11, 13-15 and 17-24 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (520.40551X00).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.


Carl I. Brundidge
Registration No. 29,621

CIB/jdc
(703) 684-1120